

**Town of Egremont, MA
Special Town Meeting**

August 27, 2018

The Egremont Special Town Meeting of August 27, 2018 at the North Egremont Fire House, 175 Egremont Plain Road, Egremont, Mass. was called to order at 7:00 pm by Moderator Stephen Cohen. The Moderator attested to the proper service of the warrant and the presence of a quorum. Town officials were introduced, the pledge was recited, and a moment of silence was observed. The Moderator gave instructions for the meeting.

Upon opening of the meeting, Egremont resident Richard Allen made a motion to change the order of the warrant articles requesting Article 4 be placed first. A second was given. Short discussion ensued.

Vote taken: Motion to change the order of the warrant articles and address Article 4 first passed by a majority show of hands vote.

ARTICLE 4: Bruce Turner, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, made motion for the Town of Egremont to accept Sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by approving a surcharge on real property for the purposes permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources, the acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; that the amount of such surcharge on real property shall be 3% of the annual real estate tax levy against real property commencing in fiscal year 2020; and that the Town hereby accepts the following exemptions from such surcharge permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act: (1) property owned and occupied as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the Town, as defined in Section 2 of said Act; and (2) \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property. A second was given.

Finance Committee Chairman Laura Allen gave report. Board of Selectman Mary Brazie spoke. Juliette Haas, Town Clerk, made motion to amend, requesting article, if passed, be placed on the May 2019 Town Election ballot for final required ballot

vote. Motion to amend passed by majority show of hands vote. Continued discussion and questions from the audience ensued.

Vote taken. Motion defeated by a 72 yes/89 no hand count vote.

ARTICLE 1: Bruce Turner made motion to grant an interest in land, including but not limited to any conveyances, leases, easements, or any other interest in land necessary to create low and moderate income housing to be located at 171 Egremont Plain Road, which land is more particularly described in a deed from Kenneth Dawes to the Inhabitants of the Town of Egremont, which deed is recorded in the Southern Berkshire Registry of Deeds at Book 480, Page 11, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute and enter any agreements, applications for grants, borrowing, and/or take any other steps necessary to create 4 units of low and moderate income housing on said property, including but not limited to a memorandum of understanding with Construct, Inc., of up to 30 years. A second was given.

June Wolfe of Construct Inc. gave a Power Point presentation. Tom Berkel of the Finance Committee gave a report. Selectman Mary Brazie spoke to motion. Jeff Cohen of the Egremont Housing Committee gave a report. Long discussion and question and answer period ensued

Vote taken. Motion passed by a majority show of hands vote.

Article 2: Bruce Turner made motion for the Town to appropriate \$640,000.00 to pay the costs of constructing affordable housing units on Town property located at 171 Egremont Plain Road, including the payment of all other costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation the Town authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, s.7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount. No borrowing may be undertaken by the Town for

this project unless and until the Town shall have formed a housing authority as approved by vote of the Town on January 13, 1986. A second was given.

Discussion and question and answer period ensued. A secret ballot was called and taken.

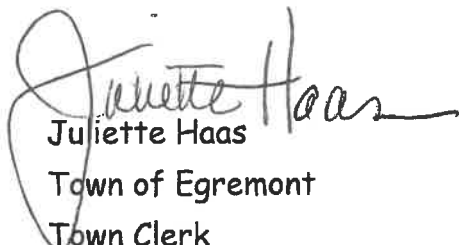
Upon completion of voting and tallying ballots motion did not achieve the required 2/3 by a paper vote count of 88 Yes/45 No/2 Blanks

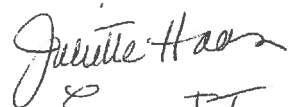
ARTICLE 3: Bruce Turner made motion to transfer from Cemetery Sale of Lots the sum of \$375 to pay a bill of a previous year. A second was given.

Vote taken. Motion passed by a unanimous show of hands vote.

Meeting adjourned 9:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,


Juliette Haas
Town of Egremont
Town Clerk
8/31/2018

A true copy. Attest

Egremont Town Clerk